

ALLIES WIDEN FRONTAL ATTACK

FALL OF SOISSONS WOULD MEAN CAPTURE OF CROWN PRINCE'S ARMY

FRENCH ADVANCE MILE ON FOUR-MILE FRONT

New Offensive Launched Northwest of Montdidier—Several Towns Captured—French Meet Heavy Resistance in Crossing the Marne.

London, July 23.—The French at 8:15 o'clock this morning began a new attack in the region northwest of Montdidier, according to advices received here shortly after noon today.

At 11 o'clock this morning the French were reported to have advanced a mile on a front of four miles. It was thought, on the basis of the advices, that the attack in the Montdidier region might be on a wider front than the one mentioned.

The French have captured Oulchy-Le-Chateau.

On the front between the Marne and Rheims the British have captured the Petitchamp wood, near Marfaux, with 200 prisoners and fourteen machine guns.

The Americans on the front south of Soissons have captured the town of Buzancy.

In their fighting along the Marne the French are reported to be experiencing great difficulty in making a passage of the river at some points, being stubbornly opposed by the German infantry, well supported by artillery and machine guns.

Franco-American troops are continuing to make progress on the battle front between the Ourcq and the Marne. Advices today are that attacks carried out by the French have restored all the ground which they lost on Monday in the region of Grisolles, seven miles northwest of Chateau-Thierry.

So far the taking of 800 prisoners by the Americans in this advance is reported.

The town of Jaulgonne, on the Marne, has been captured by the Americans, who are continuing their advance.

The French, the advices state, stormed the heights north of Courcelles at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. They are also holding the bend in the neighborhood of Chassons as far as Treloup. (These towns are just to the north of the Marne, to the east of Jaulgonne, taken by the Americans). Treloup, at the latest advices, was still in the hands of the enemy.

The French crossed the Marne at Pont-A-Binson, just to the east of Reuil.

The enemy counter-attacked heavily from the direction of Vandières, but these onslaughts were beaten off.

The Germans are stiffening their resistance between the Ourcq and the Aisne rivers and are bringing up guns.

HUN POSITIONS ABOUT TO BECOME UNTENABLE

Advance of French in Region of Oulchy-Le-Chateau Proves Serious Menace to Enemy.

Paris, July 23.—French progress in the region of Oulchy-Le-Chateau, says the Echo de Paris, will soon render the German positions in that sector untenable. New forces of Gen. de Mitty's army have crossed the Marne between Passy and Dormans, says the Petit Journal, which concludes that the northern bank of the Marne in this region will soon be cleared of the enemy.

According to a review of the military situation in L'Homme Libre, the newspaper owned by Premier Clemenceau, the German losses since March 21 are approaching 1,000,000 men.

Reports of the fighting in the Soissons-Rheims salient appearing in the Parisian newspapers tell of fires burning at Pere-En-Tardenois and Villers-En-Tardenois. Some of these were, no doubt, caused by bombs dropped by the allied aviators, but it is believed that the enemy is destroying stores that cannot be moved back of the German defensive line along the Vesle river.

Pere-En-Tardenois is near the west flank of the salient, while Villers-En-Tardenois is farther east and is quite near the allied lines southwest of Rheims. The burning of stores in both places may be an indication of general retreat from the salient by the Germans.

HARDEN SCORES KAISER'S ROBBERY OF BELGIUM

A German Chancellor, Secretary and Ambassador State in Germany Guilty.

Amsterdam, July 23.—"This is a question of decency, morality and honor," says Maximilian Harden in discussing in the Die Zukunft the recent statement made by Chancellor Von Hertling concerning Belgium.

"Can a country be regarded as an estate only to be returned to the owner only when negotiations with twenty other states have reached a favorable conclusion? Can a country be regarded as an important which, before it returns, must agree to adapt its policy and its entire state life to the will of an enemy power still ruling its soil which must guarantee that power against British, French and American threat for revenge and must even be friends of that power and grant it privileged confidence?"

"International law forbids Germany to retain even one pebble of Belgian streets and commands Germany to restore Belgium to the conditions before invasion. Is Belgium, a chancellor, a state secretary and an ambassador have confessed, an innocent victim of German self-defense? Then we have to ask its forgiveness and not force conditions upon it. This is a question of the decency, morality and honor of a nation."

CZECHO-SLOVAKS DESERT AUSTRIANS; FORM BANDS

Considerable Force Concentrated in Moravia—Have Support of People.

London, July 22.—Reuters, Limited, says it learns from a reliable source that many Czech-Slovaks and Jugoslavs are deserting from the Austrian army and forming armed bands in the interior called "green guards."

A considerable number of Czech-Slovak deserters have concentrated in the Beskid mountains in eastern Moravia. They are well armed and are offering stubborn resistance to the German forces.

"Ours," says the Reuter agency, "they receive support from the Czech population. The authorities already have issued a public order threatening punishment to all persons lending support to the movement."

Similar revolts are taking place in Dalmatia, where the military authorities have been able to suppress a revolt of armed bands of deserters and escaped Russian prisoners. The official organ, Bosnische Post, makes allusions suggesting that similar bands are springing up in Bosnia.

DRIFTED TO SEA IN WRECKED DIRIGIBLE

Three American Aviators Picked Up Ten Miles From Halifax.

Halifax, N. S., July 23.—The three American aviators from the Chatham, Mass., station, who were picked up by a vessel ten miles off this port yesterday, drifted for three days and nights along the north Atlantic coast in a dirigible balloon without definite knowledge of their course or location.

The dirigible left the Chatham station Friday for patrol duty and immediately ran into a fog which completely enveloped the aviators until they were rescued and brought here. The men apparently were unharmed and the dirigible was in good condition. The aviators are all Massachusetts men.

FAIR PRICES FOR FLOUR WORKED OUT

Food Administrator Devises Plan Putting End to All Profiteering in Such Products.

Washington, July 23.—Fair prices to govern the sale of flour and milling products at every point in the United States have been worked out with a view to stopping all profiteering in such products. It was announced today by the food administration. The prices, which generally will govern the prices throughout the crop year of 1918-1919, were worked out on a basic price for seaboard points. Local prices represent the freight deductions from the seaboard prices.

Jobbers' prices are required to be not more than 25 to 50 cents a barrel over the delivered cost, and retailers prices not more than \$1.20 a barrel over his cost price.

VON HINDENBURG'S DEATH AGAIN REPORTED



GENERAL VON HINDENBURG

London, July 23.—Rumors that Field Marshal Von Hindenburg is dead continue to be circulated in Amsterdam, said a dispatch from that city to the Daily Express today.

The Kaiser is using Von Hindenburg's name as a national ensign, added the dispatch, and will keep it flying for victory, but in the event of defeat, will haul it down.

HUN ARTILLERY BECOMES ACTIVE

British Score Advances South of Hebuterne on Front Between Arras and Albert.

AEROPLANE PLAYS PART AMERICANS CAPTURE BUZANCY AND JAULGONNE ON AISNE FRONT.

London, July 23.—Allied artillery is shelling both sides of the German salient between the Aisne and Marne over a width of from six to seven miles, leaving only a seven-mile strip through which the German crown prince's troops can effect their retirement northward, said a Central News dispatch from the front today.

Other dispatches indicate that the air forces are extremely active, putting down almost a complete curtain of steel which would hinder any attempt at widespread retreat and at the same time insuring the heaviest possible losses.

American forces fighting with the French on the Aisne-Marne front have captured Buzancy and Jaulgonne, said a Central News dispatch from the front this afternoon.

Three hundred German prisoners were reported to have been taken at Jaulgonne.

Buzancy is 4 1/2 miles south of Soissons on the Soissons-Oulchy-Le-Chateau road. Jaulgonne is on the northern bank of the Marne.

Advances in local operations were scored by the British last night. Today's war office report shows. The line was pushed forward slightly south of Hebuterne on the front between Arras and Albert, and south of Meteren and Meteren on the Flanders front. The British positions also were improved in the Hamel sector and north of Albert.

The German artillery showed considerable activity last night with gas shells in the Villers-Bretonneux sector east of Amiens, the war office announced today.

The text of the war office report reads:

"Our line was advanced slightly on Monday south of the Hebuterne-Meteren-Meteren district.

"We improved our positions in the sector of Hamel, north of Albert.

"Successful raids were carried out by the British in the neighborhood of Abbeville, the Aisette, Oppy and Avion (in the Lens sector), in which prisoners and machine guns were captured.

"Also we conducted a successful raid in the region of Meteren, killing fifty Germans.

"The hostile artillery was active in the sector of Villers-Bretonneux. Numerous gas shells were thrown.

"There were artillery duels in the area of Dikiebusch lake."

(Dikiebusch lake is southwest of Ypres in Belgium.)

Previously, in an attack reported as launched last night in this sector, the French had occupied the villages of Maillay-Raineval, Sauvillers and Aubillers, which were west of the Aisne river.

In the Montdidier fighting today the French, besides capturing the villages of Aubillers and Sauvillers, swept to the crest of Maillay-Raineval and captured it.

The capture of Aubillers, Sauvillers and Maillay-Raineval was reported by the French war office in today's official statement, which ordinarily covers only the events up to midnight, although occasionally representing a day morning happenings. Apparently the French operation was begun at a very early hour and only its early stages covered in the war office report, the later progress being indicated in the news advices.

ALLIED ADVANCES.

In the first five days of their counter offensive the Franco-American forces and their allies on the Aisne-Marne-Champagne front have:

1. Advanced from 5 to 10 miles.
2. Captured approximately 25,000 German prisoners.
3. Captured nearly 600 guns and thousands of machine guns.
4. Forced the Germans across the Marne.
5. Captured the German pivot positions at Chateau-Thierry line of communication.
6. Forced the Germans across the Marne.
7. Brought all of the German-held railways in the Aisne-Marne salient under artillery fire.

FRENCH MAKE FURTHER GAINS

Local Operations Brilliantly Executed Result in Capture of Three Villages.

ARTILLERY MORE ACTIVE

Principal Fighting Centered to South of Montdidier—French Take 350 Prisoners.

Paris, July 23.—Artillery activity along the battle front during the course of the night is all that is reported in the official statement issued by the war office today.

North of Montdidier, in the Somme sector, a local operation, brilliantly conducted, permitted the French to occupy the villages of Maillay-Raineval, Sauvillers and Aubillers. The French took 350 prisoners.

The statement says:

"Along the whole battle front only artillery actions were reported during the past night.

"North of Montdidier a local operation, which was conducted in a vigorous manner, resulted in the capture by the French of the villages of Maillay-Raineval, Sauvillers and Aubillers. The French took 350 prisoners.

"Otherwise the night was calm."

Maillay-Raineval is eight and one-half miles northwest of Montdidier. Sauvillers is seven and one-half miles northwest of Montdidier. Aubillers is five and one-half miles northwest of Montdidier.

American troops are on the line on the southern edge of this zone of fighting.

After attaining a height of great violence, the infantry fighting on the Aisne-Marne front suddenly gave way to savage artillery dueling.

Russian editions of all kinds including 50 new locomotives and many cars built with the needs of the Russian railways and their broad gauge roads considered.

Money to furnish a working capital for the Russian people who will furnish assurances that their efforts will be directed for the benefit of Russia alone. All kinds of supplies which now are needed and especially enormous quantities of foodstuffs, which will prevent the greatly feared famine that threatens Russia during the coming winter.

Experienced workers who will aid the Russians in restoring their mines, factories and the like.

Arms and munitions to rebuild the Russian army, which will put down anarchy in Russia and establish a stable government.

It is believed here that any action which President Wilson will take will not recognize any of the Russian factions. The United States, in all of the negotiations which have taken place during the last three months, has insisted at all times that there be no effort to name a government for Russia. This was a matter which must be left to the Russian people, the president insisted, and he finally gained his point.

Tokio advices today stated that the Japanese government has accepted all of the suggestions fathered by President Wilson for dealing with the Russian situation and that a reply to that effect will be sent to Washington immediately. It is expected that after this reply reaches here, the president will announce the policy arrived at.

The proposed course of the United States towards Russia will be laid before the world soon, probably before the end of the present week, by President Wilson in a public statement. Receipt of word from Tokio that the proposals of the United States have been accepted by the Japanese government is being awaited before the steps in progress or to be taken to rehabilitate the revolution-torn nation were announced.

The Russian situation and the world will be told, it is understood, that all measures to be taken by the United States are actuated by the most unselfish motives, that the United States intends to stand beside Russia, that economic aid is being sent, and that the joint military expedition by the United States, France, Japan and Great Britain does not at its time mean the reconstruction of the eastern front as a battle line.

ALLIES PLAN AID TO RUSSIA

Will Assist Anti-German Russians With Military and Economic Help.

REHABILITATE RAILROADS

Locomotives, Farm Implements and Arms and Munitions Will Be Shipped.

Washington, July 23.—Joint action by the Allied nations in Russia to aid all factions in that unhappy country who are desirous of throwing off the German yoke, is about to be initiated.

The general broad plans of procedure have been decided on. The minor questions of detail are being worked out through cable exchanges between the capitals. As soon as they are completed, a joint announcement will be authorized. Present plans are that it shall come from President Wilson. It will be made in a manner which will absolutely pledge every nation concerned to respect to the utmost the sovereignty of Russia as a nation. It will show that the all compelling plan will be one of furnishing economic assistance. Announcement will be made that a certain number of international troops will be sent to strategic points to protect Allied interests. But these forces whose composition has not as yet been fully decided on will be in no sense of the word an aggressive organization. Their duties will be limited to protecting foreign interests.

Officials and diplomats here expect the Russian announcement in the very near future. Just when it will come depends on the exchanges that are still taking place. Until all details are completed, state department and White House officials refuse to talk. They say that until the president authorizes an official announcement, they cannot explain the various stories that are coming from Tokio, London and Paris. However, diplomatic officials who should be well informed on the subject, say that the economic aid to be extended will include:

Supplies of all sorts to restore agricultural Russia. Agricultural experts with machinery and seed will go from here to Russia to aid the farmers in reclaiming their lands.

Russian editions of all kinds including 50 new locomotives and many cars built with the needs of the Russian railways and their broad gauge roads considered.

Money to furnish a working capital for the Russian people who will furnish assurances that their efforts will be directed for the benefit of Russia alone. All kinds of supplies which now are needed and especially enormous quantities of foodstuffs, which will prevent the greatly feared famine that threatens Russia during the coming winter.

Experienced workers who will aid the Russians in restoring their mines, factories and the like.

Arms and munitions to rebuild the Russian army, which will put down anarchy in Russia and establish a stable government.

It is believed here that any action which President Wilson will take will not recognize any of the Russian factions. The United States, in all of the negotiations which have taken place during the last three months, has insisted at all times that there be no effort to name a government for Russia. This was a matter which must be left to the Russian people, the president insisted, and he finally gained his point.

Tokio advices today stated that the Japanese government has accepted all of the suggestions fathered by President Wilson for dealing with the Russian situation and that a reply to that effect will be sent to Washington immediately. It is expected that after this reply reaches here, the president will announce the policy arrived at.

The proposed course of the United States towards Russia will be laid before the world soon, probably before the end of the present week, by President Wilson in a public statement. Receipt of word from Tokio that the proposals of the United States have been accepted by the Japanese government is being awaited before the steps in progress or to be taken to rehabilitate the revolution-torn nation were announced.

The Russian situation and the world will be told, it is understood, that all measures to be taken by the United States are actuated by the most unselfish motives, that the United States intends to stand beside Russia, that economic aid is being sent, and that the joint military expedition by the United States, France, Japan and Great Britain does not at its time mean the reconstruction of the eastern front as a battle line.

MORE TAGS ADDED TO SOLDIERS AND SAILORS

Name and Address of Uncle Sam's Fighters Swung On to Identification Tag.

Washington, July 23.—Soldiers and sailors of the A. E. F. are to have additional metal tags to be worn suspended from the neck, according to an order published from Gen. Pershing's headquarters, and made public by the war department today. The tags are of aluminum, one suspended from the other and hanging from the neck by a thong. They will bear the soldier's name and address and his division.

Murray Arrives in Paris to Aid Knights of Columbus



LAWRENCE O. MURRAY.

Lawrence O. Murray, comptroller of currency during the Taft administration, has arrived in Paris as deputy overseas commissioner of the Knights of Columbus. He will strive to increase the scope of the Knights of Columbus activities among the American expatriate force.

HEAVY FIRING HEARD OFF NANTUCKET ISLAND

Hydroaeroplanes Pass Over Island—Report of Distressed Vessel Denied.

Nantucket, Mass., July 23.—Heavy firing continued off the eastern end of Nantucket island throughout the night and early in the morning. Shortly after 9 o'clock three hydroaeroplanes passed over the island in the direction of the firing.

Officers of the first naval district today denied the report of a vessel in distress off the eastern end of the island yesterday.

Washington, July 23.—No reports of the rumored sinking of the South Shores lightship off Nantucket, by a German submarine, had reached the navy department this afternoon. Naval department officials were not inclined to take the rumor seriously, although an investigation will be made.

New York, July 23.—The commandant's office of the second naval district stated this afternoon that no report had been received of the sinking of a lightship off Nantucket by a German submarine.

Washington, July 23.—The navy department this afternoon was without any report of the firing off Provincetown, Mass. It was believed that an investigation would reveal target practice by destroyers, which is frequent. This belief was based on the fact that there undoubtedly would be a report on an engagement with submarines, had one actually taken place.

New Bedford, Mass., July 23.—It was reported here today that the South Shores lightship off Nantucket had been sunk by a German submarine. Off shore fishermen report that the lightship was missing. The report could not be verified at the fish exchange. Heavy firing was heard in that vicinity throughout the morning.

GERMANS CONTINUE BACKWARD MOVEMENT

Americans East of Epieds Form Contact With Force in Mont St. Pere Sector.

With the American Army at the Marne, July 23 (8:40 a.m.)—American troops advancing east of Epieds have formed a contact with the Americans that struck northward from the Mont St. Pere sector.

The Germans are being cleared from the Barbillon wood and the tip of the Chateau-Thierry salient is being wiped out.

German resistance is getting stiffer. Low clouds that threaten rain are hampering aviation work.

While the German armies fall back northward, preparations are being made for an even greater retirement. This is made evident by the configurations rising behind the German front, where villages and depot stores are being burned to prevent their falling into the hands of the allies.

The Germans want to get out before Gen. Poch springs the trap.

Should Soissons fall before the bottom part of the salient is withdrawn to ground offering naturally defensive positions, a great part of the crown prince's army south of the Aisne would be menaced with annihilation or capture.

It is now estimated that the German captive total nearly 25,500 and that nearly 600 German guns have fallen into the allies' hands, which is an excellent indication of the success of the counter drive.

ENEMY LUNGES AGAINST TRAP

Fierce Fighting on Both Wings German Salient in Effort to Prevent Cutting.

BRITISH TAKE HAND

Hun Division Annihilated by Italians—Franco-Americans Dog Heels of Enemy Army.

(Associated Press.)

With the French Army on the Aisne-Marne front, Monday, July 22.—The fiercest fighting continued throughout the day on both wings of the German salient between the Aisne and the Marne. The efforts of the enemy were concentrated on an attempt to prevent the allied troops from cutting through on either side and thus imperiling the great masses of German troops still within the semicircle.

Despite the German determination, French, American and British troops all made progress.

Overnight information does not indicate any radical change in the situation along the battle front. The prospects seemed to be that today would be another of heavy attacks and counter-attacks, with not more than slight changes in the line.

The troops of Gen. Pershing and Gen. Petain are holding almost every inch of ground they have gained since the counter-blow began on Thursday, last.

The Franco-American forces north of Chateau-Thierry now are holding Epieds and nearby villages and a bit of territory northeast of Mont St. Pere. Further east the enemy is continuing to counter-attack unsuccessfully.

Probably the heaviest fighting today occurred on the eastern wing of the salient where British troops took part. The British, who had arrived on the scene only recently, engaged the enemy in a hand-to-hand conflict in the extremely wooded region southwest of Rheims. Four fresh divisions faced them. One German division which had held the line against the Italians has been annihilated, only a few hundred remaining. The Germans had a large number of machine guns in this vicinity, but the British captured forty of them in the course of a strong attack, in which they made progress and took more than 200 prisoners.

Altogether, the day was very satisfactory for the allies, who are threatening the Germans' communications everywhere. There is every reason to believe that the Germans are hurrying forward new divisions to add to the sixth they have already thrown into the battle.

German resistance resulted in harder fighting today. The operations were rubbed of some of their spectacular features of the day advanced by the determination of the enemy not to be crowded into a retreat. South of Soissons the allied troops maintain all positions as they were Sunday night, except in some cases where they have been improved slightly. The allied positions, however, are in no apparent danger from attacks by German reserves. In the area north of Chateau-Thierry the enemy is reported by air observers to be making a move forward, but very slowly, and fighting rear guard actions all the while. The French and Americans are hanging on to the heels of the retreating Germans and are taking every opportunity to move forward. Army headquarters moves ahead bit by bit as the line advances.

Enemy airplanes have been active on observation work, but the shells fired by the German artillery in an attempt to search out the allied rear indicates that the airman failed to spot the allied positions. Many shells have fallen along the Marne at irregular intervals, and little danger has resulted.

Throughout the day the heavy guns of the allies bombarded the enemy lines with excellent results, according to aerial lookouts. Over all the territory retaken the damage wrought by American and French guns shows that the positions formerly held by the Germans suffered much more than the allied lines.

Along the greater part of the front the artillery fire was the chief activity, although at places brilliant infantry operations are taking place, while machine gun nests make every open field a potential trap. The number of prisoners has been increased by thousands, and a veritable mountain of captured and abandoned material is in possession of the allies. Many of the guns taken had been blown up or damaged by the enemy before he abandoned them.

The British efforts along the line near Rheims have been rewarded by a bag of prisoners and machine guns.

ALLIED FOOD CONTROL MEETS IN LONDON

Hoover in Attendance With Many Dignitaries—All Allies Are Represented.

London, July 23.—The conference of food controllers of the allied governments was formally opened this morning by John Robert Clynes, the British food controller. Herbert C. Hoover, the American food administrator, attended the meeting as did the food controllers of Italy, France, Belgium and other countries. Mr. Clynes was accompanied by the assistant secretary to the British food department.